national survey of 'Out of School' children was commissioned by the Ministry of Human Resource Development through Social and Rural Research Institute of Indian Market Research Bureau (SRI-IMRB) which has indicated that the proportion of out of school children is 6.94% in the 6—14 years of age group. This proportion for Scheduled Caste (SC) children and Scheduled Tribe (ST) children is 8.17% and 9.54% respectively.

There has been a decline in the number and proportion of out of school children since 2001 when Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (SSA) was initiated. The percentage of out of school children has come down from 28.50% to 6.94% in 2005.

For Scheduled Caste children, this percentage has declined from 31.87% in 2001 to 8.17% in 2005. The percentage of Scheduled Tribe out of school children has reduced from 40.01% in 2001 to 9.54% in 2005. According to the SRI-IMRB Survey among dropouts the highest percentage (20.5%) is of those who dropped out after completing Class V.

(b) This Survey has estimated that 7.92% girls in the 6—14 age group are 'out of school' compared to 6.18% boys. The percentage of out of school children is relatively higher in the 11-14 years (8.56%) compared to those in the age group 6-10 years age (6.10%).

In order to ensure equitable benefits for all social groups, the framework of SSA stipulates need-based district Annual Work Plans and Budgets. These plans include provisions for enhancing access to socially disadvantaged groups like girls, SC/ST children through opening of new schools, Education Guarantee Scheme/Alternative & Innovative Education Centres, incentives like free textbook distribution and several interventions for quality improvement.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Export of products by KVIC

713. SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the products exported during the last three years by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, country-wise; and

(b) the amount of revenue earned by such exports so far?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) The Khadi and Village Industries Commission, a statutory organisation under the Government of India, does not directly undertake any exports.

(b) Does not arise.

Functioning of cottage industries in rural areas

714. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH:
SHRIMATI HEMA MALINI:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cottage industries at present functioning in the rural areas with the help of Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC); and

(b) the details of those cottage industries and the number of persons engaged therein?

THE MINISTER OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI MAHAVIR PRASAD): (a) and (b) 2,09,705 village industry units of seven categories (*viz.*, Polymer and chemical based industry, Food and Agro based industry, Forest based industry, Handmade paper and fibre industry, Mineral based industry, Rural engineering and bio-technology industry and Service industry) have been set up under the Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP) upto 31 March, 2005 since its inception in April, 1995. The REGP is implemented by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, with the assistance of State Khadi and Village Industries Boards and Banks. The employment generated under the REGP during the above-mentioned period is 28.05 lakh.

Assistance to khadi units under REGP

715. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that khadi units are not eligible for assistance under the REGP;